

# Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

## FY 2023 Budget Request



STATE OF IDAHO  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Attachment 2

Jess Byrne, Director  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

# Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

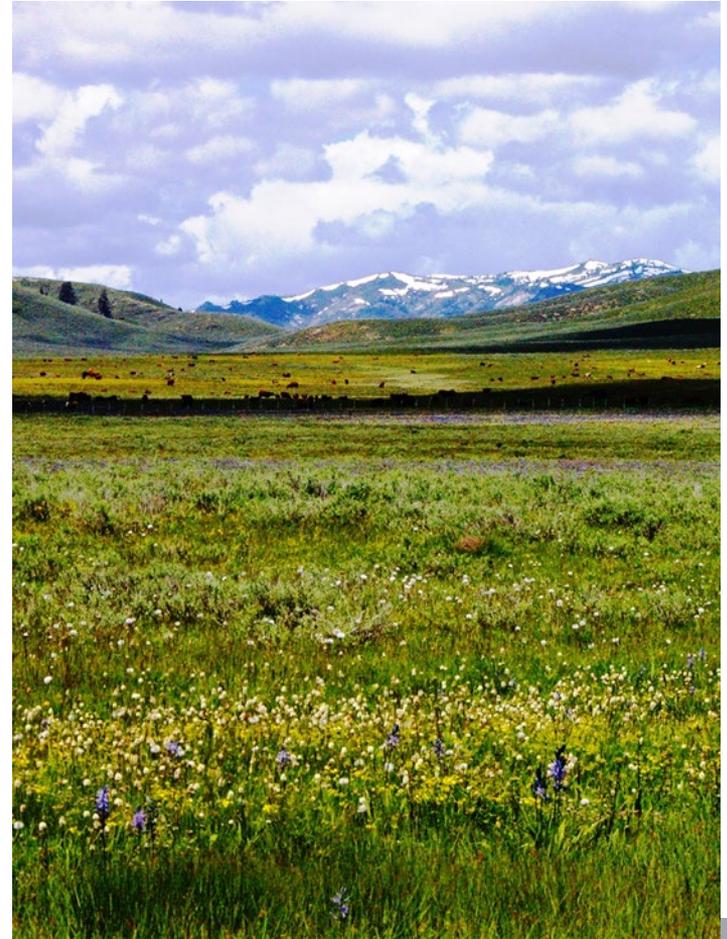
Mission – To protect human health and the quality of Idaho’s air, land, and water.

Vision – An Idaho where the quality of our environment enhances healthy living and supports thriving communities.



# Agency Goals

- Make recognizable and measurable environmental improvements.
- Provide first-class customer service as a trusted source for environmental leadership.
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement.



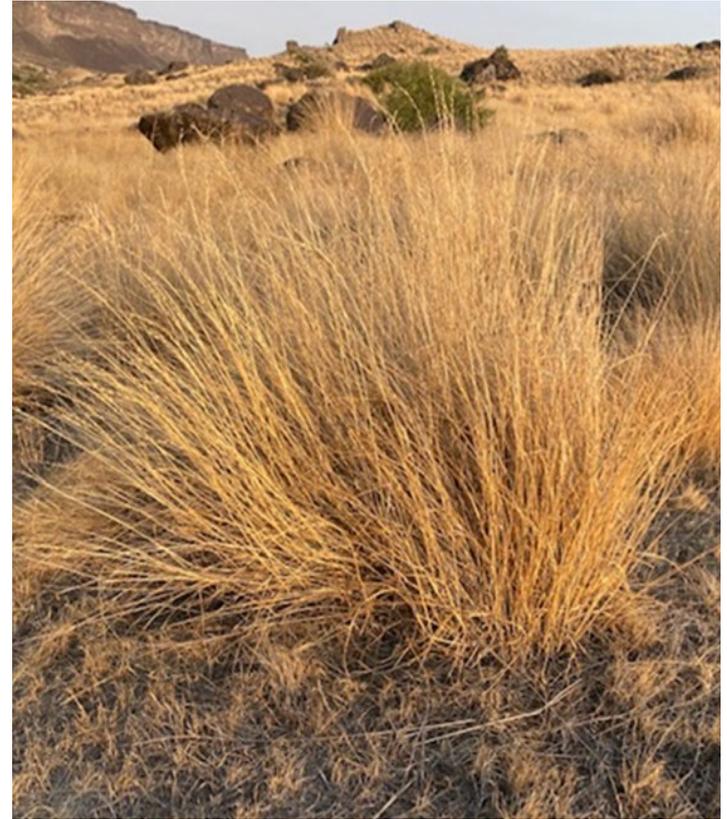
# DEQ Structure

- We have 379 full-time positions.
- Roughly half are in State office located in Boise.
- The other half are spread across 6 regions.
- 44 vacant positions, 10 of which do not have funding.



# Successes

- Southeastern Idaho's Cache Valley now meets the Clean Air Act health-based standards for fine particle pollution, or PM2.5.
- DEQ took on the final phase of IPDES discharge permits and began issuing permits for construction, industrial, and municipal storm water activities.



# Challenges

- Retaining and attracting employees.
- Workload increase.
- Some services we provide are beginning to be impacted.
  - Timeliness of permitting
  - Compliance assistance
  - TMDL development
  - Timely engineering plan reviews
  - Decreased inspections
- Compliance rates declined at some inspected facilities.



# Supplemental Requests

*First request – AG BMP fund transfer*

- One-time transfer of \$20 million General Funds to Agricultural BMP fund.
- In addition to annual GF appropriation of \$279,000 to Ag BMP fund.
- Annually, DEQ receives more requests than available funding.



# Supplemental Requests

## *Second request – Triumph mine reimbursement*

- \$1,452,200 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for FY2022 expenses associated with Triumph mine.
- \$ 128,400 personnel  
\$1,323,800 operating
- Preserves state funds for future work at site.



# Supplemental Requests

## *Third request – Match for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)*

- \$44 million transfer of General Funds into Water Pollution Control Account.
- Over the next 5 years, DEQ will be receiving additional federal funding in state revolving funds from IIJA starting in FY23.
- These funds are used for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure loans and grants.
- DEQ is estimated to receive an additional \$253 million as a result of IIJA that requires a state match.
- For every dollar of match, we get almost \$6 in return to help communities.

# Line-item 1:

***Permit writer for IPDES (Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System)  
\$ 122,700 ongoing request from IPDES fund (user fees)***

- DEQ received a backlog of permits from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) when the state took over primacy of the discharge permit program in July 2018.
- Those permits apply to over 2500 permittees and include general permits which cover multiple facilities with similar discharge characteristics.
- Increased population growth & economic activity means more permit applications.



# Line-item 2:

LBB Page 4-8

## ***Solid Waste Analyst***

***\$90,500 ongoing General Funds***

- As Idaho grows, so does the need for assistance to address challenges associated with solid waste management and help communities plan accordingly.
- Currently only have equivalent of 5 positions focused on solid waste across entire state.
- DEQ currently operating primarily on a reactionary basis.
- Many of Idaho's municipal solid waste facilities have long-term compliance challenges.



# Line-item 3:

***Contaminated site cleanup assistance/oversight  
\$146,000 ongoing General Funds***

- An increasing number of contaminated sites are being discovered that need DEQ assistance to be resolved such as leaking above ground storage tanks, fuel spills from truck accidents, and home heating oil tank leaks.
- New contaminated sites  68%
- Emergency response incidents  56%



- Public records requests related to contaminated sites  81%

# Line-item 4:

***Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Water Quality Monitoring  
\$185,000 ongoing General Funds***

- Clean Water Act requires TMDLs for any waterbody that is not meeting its beneficial uses.
- Idaho code requires we keep TMDL's current.
- Lack of TMDL's can mean stricter standards for dischargers.



# Line-item 5:

LBB Page 4-9

## ***Radioactivity Testing***

***\$200,000 one-time from Hazardous Waste Emergency Fund***



### ***Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM)***

Naturally occurring radioactive material with radionuclide concentrations that have been increased above natural levels by human activities.

Need data to develop correct standards for Idaho facilities generating this waste.

# Line-item 6:

***Cash Transfer Water Pollution Control Fund to Environmental Remediation (Basin) Fund  
\$1,500,000 one time***

- DEQ is building a balance in the fund to act as the state's required 10% match for superfund cleanup projects in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.
- Goal is to transfer a total of \$45 million into the fund over a 30-year period.
- End of FY 2021, the balance was \$20.2 million.
- Process started began in FY2006.

# Line Item 51: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Contaminated Sites

LBB Page 4-9

*\$13,709,600 a year for five years totaling \$70,000,000 (3 FTPs)*

5 areas of general focus:

- 1) Coeur d'Alene Lake nutrient reduction
- 2) Triumph mine remediation
- 3) Closure of old landfills
- 4) Cleanup of contaminated sites
- 5) Closure of abandoned mines



# Line-item 52: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Drinking Water and Wastewater

LBB Page 4-10

*\$60,000,000 a year for five years totaling \$300,000,000 (5 FTPs)*

- Letters of interest for FY23 DEQ state revolving loan funding were solicited between late-October and mid-January.
- Many efforts were made to notify of potential ARPA funding available.
- DEQ received 263 letters of interest (we usually receive 70) requesting over \$1.4 billion for water and wastewater projects.
- In FY22, DEQ awarded \$1.2 million in planning grants to help communities determine infrastructure funding needs.



# FY23 Total DEQ Budget Recommendation

<b>Category</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY23</b>
Operating Expense	\$20,062,200	\$26,875,700
Capital Outlay	\$2,300,000	\$2,416,000
Trustee/Benefit	\$13,176,000	\$74,888,200
Personnel Cost	\$36,217,600	\$39,866,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,755,800</b>	<b>\$144,046,100</b>

# Questions?

